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 RUEHBL/AMEMBASSY BEIRUT IMMEDIATE 4344
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 RUEHDM/AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS IMMEDIATE 0601
 RUEHJM/AMCONSUL JERUSALEM IMMEDIATE 3057
 RUEHJI/AMEMBASSY JIDDA IMMEDIATE 8742
 RUQMKW/AMEMBASSY KUWAIT IMMEDIATE 4035
 RUEHLD/AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE 1021
 RUFHFR/AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE 3632
 RUFHRA/AMEMBASSY RABAT IMMEDIATE 1337
 RUEHRO/AMEMBASSY ROME IMMEDIATE 5924
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MILITARY ADDRESSES TREAT AS SPECAT EXCLUSIVE

CINCEUR FOR POLAD, BRUSSELS FOR USEC

E.O. 12356: DECL: DADR
 TAGS: PREL, IS, LE, US, OREP (FOWLER, W.)
 SUBJECT: CODEL FOWLER: MEETING WITH PRIME MINISTER
 SHAMIR: LEBANON ISSUES

1. CONFIDENTIAL - ENTIRE TEXT.

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2. SUMMARY: DURING FEBRUARY 13 MEETING WITH CODEL AND AMBASSADOR, SHAMIR SAID THAT IT IS IMPORTANT FOR THE UNITED STATES AND ISRAEL TO COOPERATE TOGETHER TO DETER SYRIA. HE SPOKE OF SYRIA'S UNBRIDLED AMBITIONS IN LEBANON AND ARGUED THAT FURTHER SIGNALS WERE NECESSARY IF SYRIA'S GOAL OF DOMINATION IN LEBANON WAS TO BE PREVENTED. HE SAID THAT THE ACTIVITY OF THE U.S. NAVY MUST CONTINUE AND THAT THE LEBANESE GOVERNMENT SHOULD NOT ABROGATE THE MAY 17 AGREEMENT. SHAMIR STATED THAT ABROGATION OF THE

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84 3364472 SCO

PAGE 002
TOR: 132052Z FEB 84

NC 3364472

AGREEMENT WOULD BE DISASTROUS. END SUMMARY.

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 3. ON FEBRUARY 13 CONGRESSMAN WYCHE FOWLER (D-GEORGIA) AND CONGRESSMAN MIKE LOWRY (D-WASHINGTON), ACCOMPANIED BY AMBASSADOR LEWIS, MET ISRAELI PRIME MINISTER YITZHAK SHAMIR FOR A HALF HOUR MEETING. IN THE COURSE OF THE DISCUSSION, CONGRESSMAN FOWLER ASKED SHAMIR INTER ALIA FOR HIS "CANDID ASSESSMENT OF UNITED STATES' POLICY VIS-A-VIS LEBANON" AND WHAT STEPS SHAMIR THOUGHT THE U.S. SHOULD NOW TAKE. SHAMIR ANSWERED THAT HE WOULD LIKE "TO SEE A CONTINUATION OF THE POLICY AGREED TO DURING HIS LAST VISIT TO WASHINGTON" AND THE MAINTENANCE OF CLOSE COOPERATION AND CONSULTATION BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND ISRAEL. SHAMIR NOTED THAT THE LAST MEETING OF THE JOINT POLITICAL-MILITARY GROUP WAS "SUCCESSFUL" AND THAT IT IS IMPORTANT FOR BOTH THE UNITED STATES AND ISRAEL TO COOPERATE IN ORDER TO DETER DANGEROUS DEVELOPMENTS ON THE PART OF SYRIA.

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 4. SHAMIR SAID THAT SYRIA "HAS AN AGGRESSIVE MIND." IT IS THEREFORE IMPORTANT TO LET SYRIA KNOW THAT THE UNITED STATES WILL NOT PERMIT SYRIA TO CARRY OUT ITS AGGRESSIVE DESIGNS. HE SAID THAT THE SYRIANS "FEEL SUCCESS" IN LEBANON AND MAINTAINED THAT THE "DREAM OF ASSAD IS TO BECOME LEADER OF THE ARAB WORLD" AND CONTROL ALL OF SO-CALLED "GREATER SYRIA." SHAMIR NOTED THAT SYRIA TALKS ABOUT THE "LEBANESE-SYRIAN PEOPLE RATHER THAN THE LEBANESE PEOPLE." SEES JORDAN AS PART OF "GREATER SYRIA," AND INDEED ALSO INCLUDES ISRAEL. SHAMIR ADDED THAT "SYRIA WOULD BE DEFEATED BY ISRAEL IN A WAR BUT ISRAEL DOES NOT WANT WAR."

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 5. AS FOR U.S. MILITARY ACTIONS IN LEBANON, SHAMIR SAID THAT SYRIA NEEDS "FURTHER SIGNALS THAT THEY WILL NOT SUCCEED IN DOMINATING ALL OF LEBANON." ACCORDINGLY, THE "ACTIVITY OF THE U.S. NAVY MUST CONTINUE." SHAMIR DECLINED TO TALK ABOUT THE MARINE ROLE IN LEBANON BUT SAID THAT THE LEBANESE GOVERNMENT SHOULD BE "ENCOURAGED TO STAND AGAINST THE AGGRESSIVE AIMS OF SYRIA AND NOT GIVE UP THE MAY 17 AGREEMENT." SHAMIR SAID THAT GIVING UP THE MAY 17 AGREEMENT WOULD BE "DISASTROUS" BECAUSE IT WOULD RAISE DOUBTS AMONG COUNTRIES IN THIS PART OF THE WORLD

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CINCEUR FOR POLAD, BRUSSELS FOR USEC

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ABOUT AGREEMENTS BETWEEN ISRAEL AND OTHER COUNTRIES AND THE ROLE OF THE UNITED STATES IN HELPING NEGOTIATE SUCH AGREEMENTS. SHAMIR CONCLUDED THAT PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST ULTIMATELY DEPENDS ON AGREEMENTS BETWEEN ISRAEL AND ITS ARAB NEIGHBORS.

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 6. DISCUSSION OF OTHER TOPICS COVERED BY PRIME MINISTER SHAMIR AND CONGRESSMEN FOWLER AND LOWRY WILL FOLLOW BY SEPTEL.

7. MINIMIZE BEIRUT AND KUWAIT CONSIDERED.

LEWIS

END OF MESSAGE

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